メテオCOMICS
佐藤ミト
4
春の包帯少女

"DON'T INTERFERE!" HOW WILL AKI RESPOND TO HARU'S RESOLVE...?

CHAPTER 14: SCAR
THE PAST BROUGHT TO LIGHT, THE FUTURE STILL SHROUDED IN SHADOWS...
春の包帯少女
佐藤ミト

...I HAVE NO INTENTION OF DOING ANYTHING LIKE THAT AT ALL.
...BUT,

IF YOU WERE LYING TO ME JUST NOW,
AND YOU REALLY ARE THE ARSONIST...

I'LL EXPOSE EVERYTHING FOR EVERYONE TO SEE,
AND MAKE SURE
THAT THERE WON'T BE A SINGLE PLACE LEFT FOR YOU IN THIS WORLD.

DON'T TELL NATSU ABOUT ANY OF THIS...!
DO WHAT YOU WANT...
...BUT PROMISE ME ONE THING.
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HER.
...I'VE BEEN MAKING SURE SHE DOESN'T FIND OUT ABOUT IT.. AND I PLAN TO KEEP DOING THAT.
INSTEAD OF ASKING PEOPLE TO KEEP QUIET, YOU COULD HAVE JUST GONE STRAIGHT TO THE POLICE.
YOU'VE STILL GOT YOUR HEAD IN THE CLOUDS
HEH.
WHEN YOU HAVE THAT POWER?
DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN GO BACK TO LIVING THOSE AVERAGE, NORMAL DAYS
IN THE END, ALL THAT CONSIDERATION FOR NATSU IS JUST A WAY FOR YOU TO AVOID BEING SUSPECTED, ISN'T IT?

WHETHER THE CULPRIT IS CAUGHT OR NOT,
YOUR FLAMES COULD STILL HURT SOMEONE, RIGHT?
!
...YOU
SHOULD MAKE YOUR DECISION
THE ONE I WANT TO SEE,
AS LONG AS I GET MY REVENGE, WHETHER I COME OUT ALIVE OR DEAD DOESN'T MATTER TO ME.
THE ONE I WANT BY MY SIDE, IS NO LONGER HERE.
...I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ELSE TO LIVE FOR
EITHER WAY, I'LL HAVE MY HAPPILY EVER AFTER.

BUT I'VE GOT ONE PIECE OF ADVICE FOR YOU.
YOU MIGHT THINK YOU'RE KEEPING HER OUT OF DANGER BY TRYING TO KEEP HER UNINVOLVED AND PUSHING HER ASIDE,
BUT ALL THAT'LL DO FOR HER IS CREATE ANXIETY AND DOUBT IN HER HEART.
JUST LIKE YOU'RE HIDING SOMETHING FROM NATSU,
YOU MIGHT BE MAKING NATSU HIDE SOMETHING FROM YOU, TOO.

I MADE MY DECISION
A LONG TIME AGO.
……
I ALREADY...
やきそば
200円
どろそば
OPEN
んどう
VEGETABLE
飯

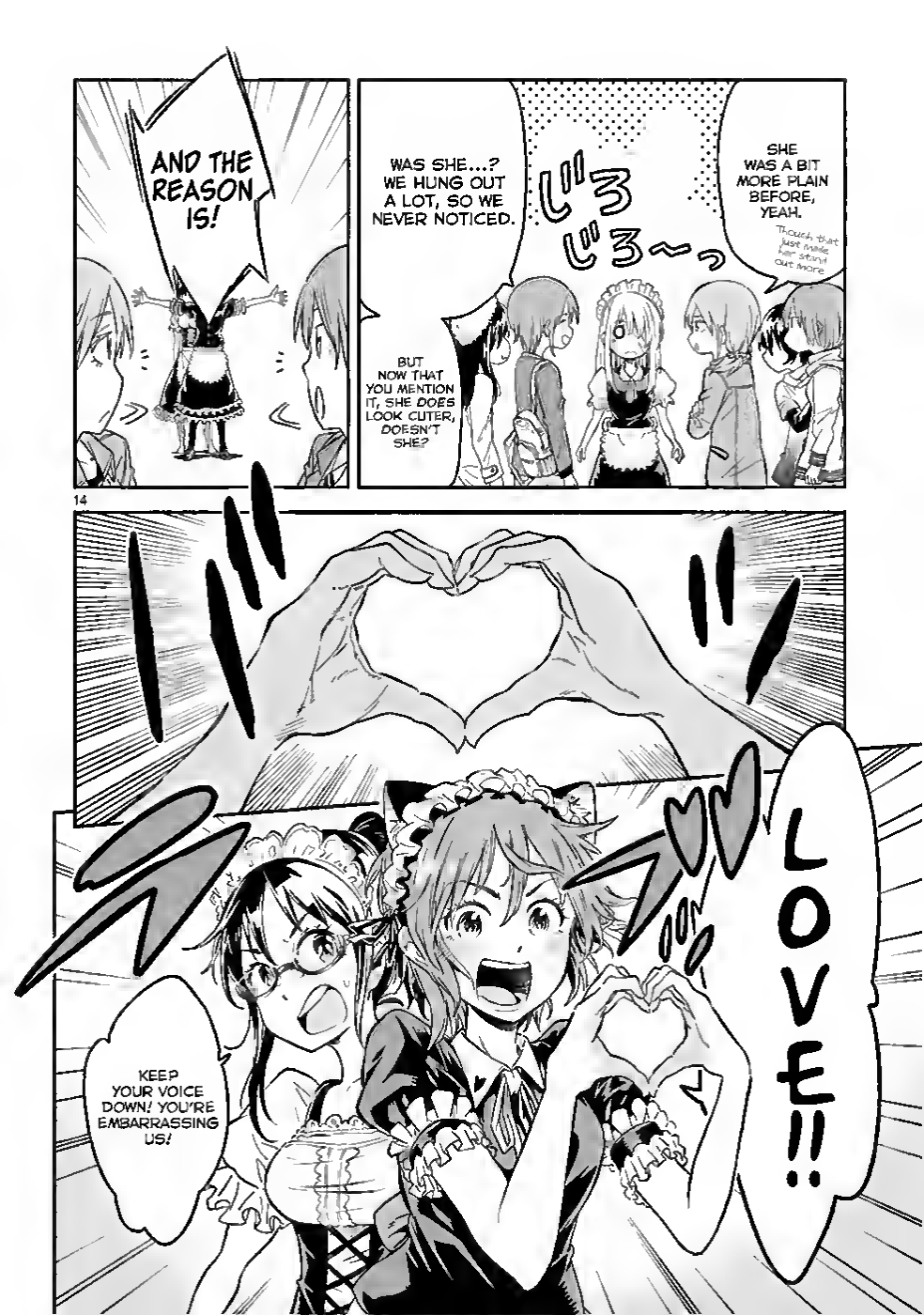
AKI-CHAN.
NATSU

AKI-CHAN, DID YOU DO SOMETHING TO HARU...?
.....
...NO, I DIDN'T.
WE MANAGED TO CLEAR UP OUR MISUNDER-STANDINGS
HUH?
I'M SAYING I WON'T BOTHER HIM ANYMORE.
...SORRY FOR ALL THE TROUBLE

REALLY?
THAT'S GOOD TO HEAR...
...SOMETHING
FEELS OFF...
DON'T SOUND LIKE THE SAME PERSON.
AND THE NATSU NOW
THE NATSU HE DESCRIBED
.....

IF I CAN JUST FIND OUT...
HEY, NATSU...
12
HEEEY!
AH!
EVERY-ONE!
YOU CAME TO VISIT!
OF COURSE WE DID!
NOZOMI'S WITH US, TOO.
HEY, HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE.

I WAS SO WORRIED WHEN YOU TOLD US WHAT HAD HAPPENED.
Looks like it hurts
O-OF COURSE I'M FINE!
I KNOW YOU SAID YOU WERE,
BUT ARE YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY? THOSE WOUNDS...
SORRY FOR BEING OFF-TOPIC. SHE'S BEEN HOOKED ON THIS ONLINE NOVEL RECENTLY.
APPARENTLY THE STORY REALLY SOUNDS LIKE WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU.
I SEE...
THAT STORY AGAIN...
BUT DOESN'T IT REALLY SOUND THE SAME?
THE HEROINE SACRIFICES HERSELF FOR THE MAIN CHARACTER AND DIES. I WAS SO SAD ABOUT IT, I CRIED.
YEAH, YEAH.
IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE A TRAGEDY ABOUT A BANDAGED GIRL.
IS IT NOW...
ANYWAY, DON'T YOU GUYS THINK
NATSU'S GOTTEN A BIT MORE FEMININE?
HUH?


AND THE REASON IS!
WAS SHE...? WE HUNG OUT A LOT, SO WE NEVER NOTICED.
じろじろ～っ
SHE WAS A BIT MORE PLAIN BEFORE, YEAH.
I thought that just made her stand out more
BUT NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, SHE DOES LOOK CUTER, DOESN'T SHE?
14
LOVE!!
KEEP YOUR VOICE DOWN! YOU'RE EMBARRASSING US!

WE CAME LOOKING FOR YOU 'CAUSE YOU TOOK SO LONG.
ARE THOSE YOUR FRIENDS FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL?
どーもー
YEAH
どーもー
SO BACK TO WHAT I WAS SAYING, THIS GIRL AND HER BOY ARE JUST ALL LOVEY-DOVEY EVERY DAY.
JUST AS I THOUGHT, SHE'S STILL DATING YOZAKURA-KUN, HUH?
IF YA WANNA KNOW MORE, COME WITH US TO OUR CLASS!
おーっ!!
NOOOO!!
I'M NOT GOING!
SURE, WHATEVER.
わらわら
……
SORRY ABOUT THAT, AKI-CHAN.
IT'S FINE, I'M NOT VERY GOOD WITH BEING IN GROUPS LIKE THAT ANYWAY ..

THAT HELPED ME
UNDERSTAND A FEW THINGS.
AND BESIDES...

..IT'S ALREADY COME OUT TWICE TODAY...
I'M STARTING TO LOSE MORE AND MORE CONTROL OVER IT.

DAMN IT...
YOUR FLAMES COULD STILL HURT SOMEONE, RIGHT?
IT'S DETERIO-RATING...
ALMOST AS IF
I SHOULD MAKE UP SOME EXCUSE SO I CAN REST IN THE INFIRMARY.
...FOR NOW,
.....
NO TRESPASSIN

YOU...
YOU'RE...

YOZA-KURA-KUN.
HOW'VE YOU BEEN?
HUH...?
SORRY FOR SCARING YOU.
I FOUND THIS MASK OVER THERE, SO I THOUGHT I'D TRY PUTTING IT ON.
...YU...

YUKI-MACHI-KUN...?
WELL THAT'S GOOD.
YOU STILL REMEMBER ME.
...YOUR HAND..
.....
ARE YOU OKAY...?
Y-YEAH, IT'S FINE I JUST GOT SLIGHTLY BURNED.
... SO HOW LONG HAS IT BEEN... ABOUT THREE YEARS?
LAST TIME WE SAW EACH OTHER WAS WINTER IN SEVENTH GRADE.

MY FATHER DIED, AND I GOT TAKEN IN BY MY RELATIVES.
S-SORRY...
MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE IT'S BEEN SO LONG,
BUT THIS CONVERSATION REALLY ISN'T GOING ANYWHERE, IS IT..
22
NO, IT'S FINE. YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO NOT SAY ANYTHING BAD, RIGHT?
.....
YOU'RE A KIND PERSON, AFTER ALL

THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'RE KIND.
YOU'RE A KIND PERSON.
BUT
YOU'VE CHANGED A BIT TOO, YOZA-KURA-KUN.
A LOT'S HAPPENED.
YOU'VE CHANGED A BIT.
... SORRY. IT'S BEEN SO LONG THAT I HAVE SO MUCH TO SAY AND I DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START...
LET'S DO THIS ANOTHER TIME WHEN WE CAN TALK ABOUT EVERYTHING, JUST LIKE OLD TIMES.

...SURE.
YOU CAN COME TALK TO ME ANY TIME.
HARU...!
NATSU, WHAT'S WRONG!?

YUKI-MACHI-KUN!
UM...
LOOKS LIKE I'M INTERRUPTING SOMETHING, SO I'LL SEE YOU LATER.
!
TO SEE YOU AGAIN AFTER SO LONG...
...I'M REALLY GLAD...
NEXT TIME WE SEE EACH OTHER,
COULD YOU GIVE IT A READ?
I'VE BEEN WRITING A NOVEL.
HUH...?
...ALRIGHT, I'M LOOKING FORWARO TO IT.

...GREAT. YOU SEE,
I'M REALLY PLEASED
WITH HOW GOOD OF A TRAGEDY IT'S TURNING OUT TO BE.
...HARU, WAS THAT...
YUKIMACHI-KUN FROM OUR CLASS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL..?
YEAH
...I SEE.
THAT ASIDE, ARE YOU OKAY..?
DID AKI-CHAN DO SOME-THING TO YOU...?

DO YOU REALLY NOT TRUST ME...?
!
THAT'S NOT IT!
.....
I TOLD YOU, THIS IS MY PROBLEM.
...IT'S JUST,
IF THE FLAMES COME OUT, YOU'LL BE HURT...
STOP IT...
I DON'T LIKE THIS
I REALLY JUST...
I ALREADY MADE UP MY MIND THAT YOU..
LIKE YOUR HAND WAS...
...STOP.

I WANT TO PROTECT YOU...!
I WANT TO BE ABLE TO HELP YOU...!
ISN'T...
ISN'T THAT BASICALLY JUST NOT TRUSTING ME...!?
I...!
I WANT TO PROTECT YOU TOO.
I DON'T WANT YOU TO GET HURT!!
I'LL BE FINE! DIDN'T I ALREADY SHOW YOU...!?
I HAVE A POWER THAT CAN HEAL MY WOUNDS!

THEN WHY
ARE YOU STILL WEARING THAT BANDAGE ON YOUR FACE?
……
IF YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO HIDE YOUR POWER BY PRETENDING YOU'RE STILL HURT,
THEN SHOW ME WHAT'S UNDERNEATH.
スルッ…

...SEE?
...IT'S NOT OKAY...
...JUST LIKE MY FLAMES...
THERE'S NO GUARANTEE SOMETHING WON'T HAPPEN...
...IT'S PROBABLY GOING TO REACH ITS LIMIT SOON.
SO...
...YOU DON'T NEED TO COVER FOR ME ANYMORE...

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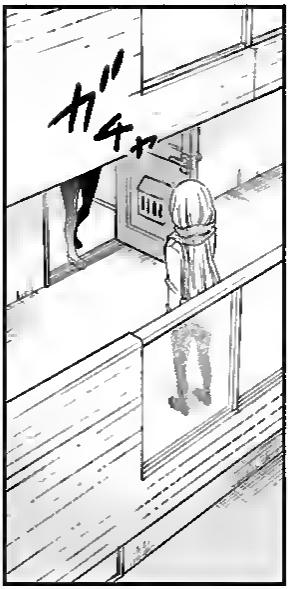
どろそば

DING DONG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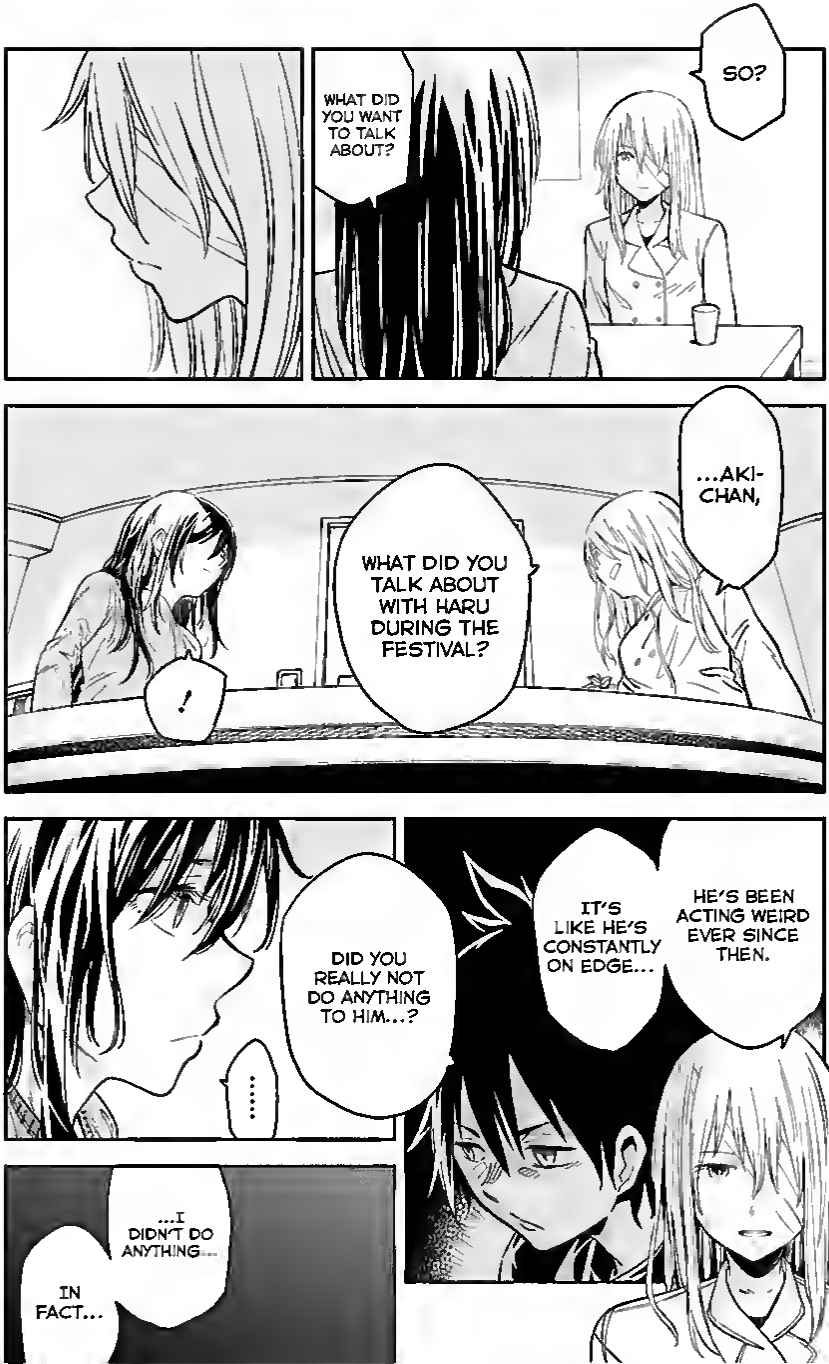
COME IN,
NATSU.


SO?
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT?
...AKI-CHAN,
WHAT DID YOU TALK ABOUT WITH HARU DURING THE FESTIVAL?
!
HE'S BEEN ACTING WEIRD EVER SINCE THEN.
IT'S LIKE HE'S CONSTANTLY ON EDGE...
DID YOU REALLY NOT DO ANYTHING TO HIM...?
.....
...I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING...
IN FACT...

ALL THAT HAPPENED WAS THAT HE TOLD ME
ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR.
WHAT DOES... THAT MEAN...?
I KNOW THINGS ABOUT HIM THAT YOU DON'T.
THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS.

WHAT...
ARE YOU..
...WHAT I'M DOING
IS ASKING IF YOU'RE WILLING TO TRADE SECRETS.
I HAVE A POWER, JUST LIKE YOU TWO.
DON'T TRY TO LIE.
.....!
YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU'RE HIDING FROM HIM, TOO, DON'T YOU...?

LIES WON'T WORK ON ME.
THAT'S WHY YOZAKURA-KUN TOLD ME EVERYTHING.
EVEN HOW HE FEELS ABOUT YOU, NATSU.
.....
IF YOU'RE WILLING TO TALK,
THEN I'LL TELL YOU WHAT HE TOLD ME. DEAL?

.....
I ALREADY KNOW THAT...
HARU WAS THE ONE WHO SAVED ME FROM THAT.
WHEN WE WERE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, I COULDN'T TALK WITH OTHERS VERY WELL AND I GOT BULLIED FOR THAT.
BUT ONE DAY,
I KNOW THAT TOO...
HARU WAS ATTACKED AND CAPTURED BY THE ARSONIST.

ピキ
WAIT...!
HOW DO YOU...
HOW DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THAT...?
ピキ
.....
BECAUSE...

カ
ア

I WAS THERE TOO.
ガッ
ガシャ
≫次回更新へつづく

HARU NO HOUTAI SHOUJO

CHAPTER 14

RAWS:
JAGMANYX3

TRANSLATION:
RENM

PROOFREADING:
JAGMANYX3

EDITING:
JAGMANYX3

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PSYLOCKE SCANS

WELL THEN, SEE YOU TOMORROW.
...I'LL BE FINE!
...BE CAREFUL ON YOUR WAY BACK.
...THANK YOU FOR COMING TODAY...
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE HAD SOMEONE ELSE AT THE DINNER TABLE. WE HAD A REALLY GOOD TIME.

SORRY, I'M GOING OUT FOR A BIT...!
...I HAVE...
2
ALRIGHT, NATSU.
BE A GOOD GIRL AND WATCH THE HOUSE, OKAY?
A BAD FEELING...
SEE YOU, MOM...

A FEELING.
!
HARU'S
BICYCLE...!?
THAT I'M GOING TO LOSE SOMEONE DEAR TO ME...
!!
.....

春の卍少女
CHAPTER 15: MASK
THE TRUTH OF WHAT HAPPENED, REVEALED!
佐藤ミト

バキッ
……
WHERE... IS HARU...!?

RU...
HARU...!
CRACK
!!

HARU!!!
HARU...
……

...HUH...?
ザザザザザ!!
10

PANT
PANT...
PANT
PANT
HUFF
PANT
...I'M
GOING TO DIE...?
PANT
PANT
11
HARU...
PANT...
...BUT
SO I... DON'T...
PANT
HAVE ANY REGRETS, RIGHT...?
GOT OUT SAFELY...
PANT...
IT'S OKAY...

NOT YET...
I DON'T... WANT TO DIE YET...
...I WANT... TO BE...
NO...
WITH THE PERSON I LIKE...
MORE...
FOREVER...

I WANT TO BE WITH HIM...!

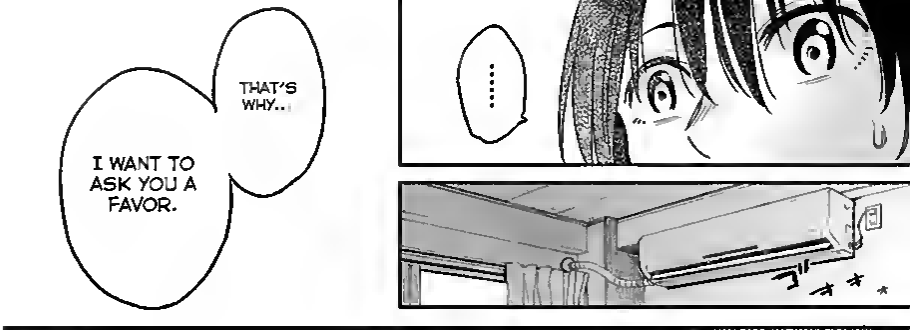
I WENT HOME, MAKING SURE NOT TO RUN INTO ANYONE...
AFTER THAT...
AND I REALIZED
THAT MY BODY
HAD SOMEHOW GAINED THE POWER TO HEAL ITSELF.
DESPITE WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU,
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR BODY...
WHY...
.....

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL HIM ABOUT IT...?
AREN'T YOU TWO LOVERS...?
YOU COULD HAVE TALKED...
AND RELIED ON EACH OTHER MORE, COULDN'T YOU...!?
AFTER THAT...
HARU DIDN'T COME TO SCHOOL FOR A WHILE.
WITHOUT KNOWING WHAT HE HAD GONE THROUGH...
OR WHAT WAS HAPPENING TO MY BODY...
I DIDN'T KNOW HOW I WAS SUPPOSED TO TALK TO HIM, OR WHAT I SHOULD SAY...

I WENT TO SEE HARU AFTER BEING URGED TO DO SO.
...BUT A FEW DAYS LATER,
HARU LOOKED REALLY TIRED...
...NATURALLY...
IT MUST HAVE BEEN A TERRIFYING EXPERIENCE...
AT THAT MOMENT, HARU
SEEMED TO
WANT TO SAY SOMETHING...
...BUT HE HELD BACK.
AND THEN...

HE SMILED.
IT WAS A SMILE THAT WAS TRYING TO HIDE SOMETHING UNDERNEATH IT.
WITHOUT KNOWING WHETHER THAT WAS ANGER OR FEAR, I...
DID THE ONLY THING I COULD DO...
IF HARU DIDN'T WANT TO REMEMBER WHAT HAD HAPPENED...
...THEN I WOULD ALSO...

FACE HIM WITH A SMILE.
AS LONG AS HE CONTINUES TO TRY TO BE CHEERFUL, THEN I WILL RESPOND IN THE SAME WAY.
UNTIL HARU DECIDES TO TELL ME ABOUT IT,
I WON'T TALK ABOUT IT,
AND I'LL PRETEND IT NEVER HAPPENED.


THAT'S WHY..
I WANT TO ASK YOU A FAVOR.
……
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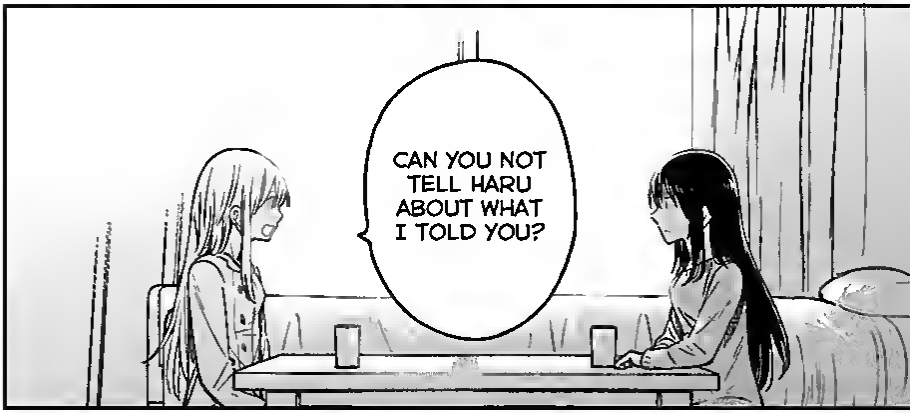
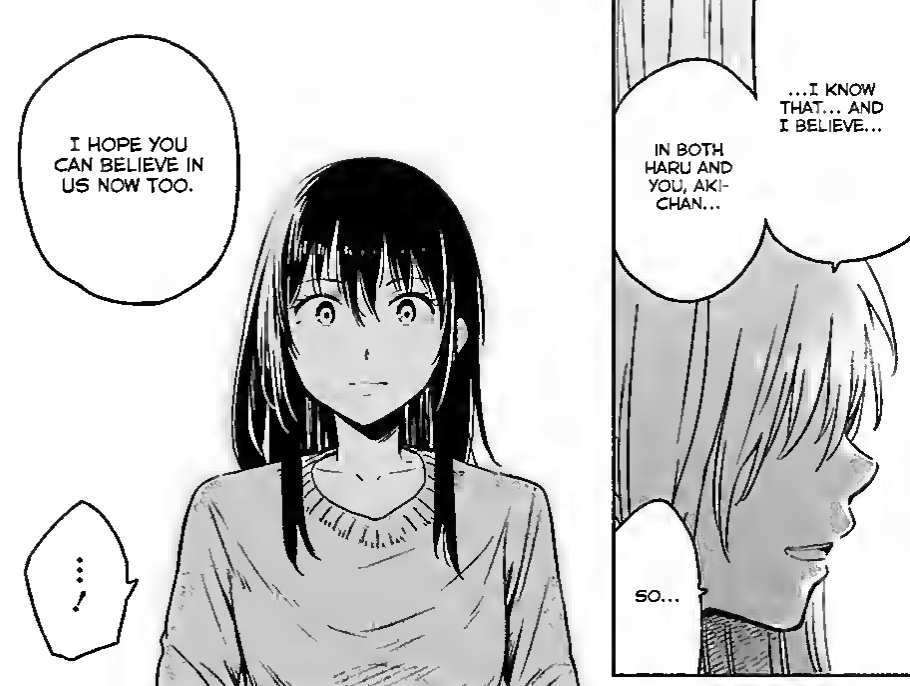

CAN YOU NOT TELL HARU ABOUT WHAT I TOLD YOU?

I CAN'T TELL YOU WHAT YOZAKURA-KUN TOLD ME...
. SORRY,
……!
I WAS GOING TO TELL YOU, BUT I CAN'T..
I'VE BEEN KEEPING QUIET FOR THIS LONG...
I WANT TO... KEEP HIM FROM GETTING WORRIED... FOR AS LONG AS I CAN...
THIS HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH HER
—I'VE BEEN MAKING SURE SHE DOESN'T FIND OUT ABOUT IT— AND I PLAN TO KEEP DOING THAT
……!!

THAT YOZAKURA-KUN...
...BUT BELIEVE ME WHEN I TELL YOU...
MORE THAN ANYONE,
MORE THAN ANYTHING,
HE CARES ABOUT YOU AND IS TRYING TO PROTECT YOU...
...I KNOW.


I HOPE YOU CAN BELIEVE IN US NOW TOO.
...!
...I KNOW THAT... AND I BELIEVE...
IN BOTH HARU AND YOU, AKI-CHAN...
SO...

RIGHT NOW I BELIEVE
EVEN THOUGH I DOUBTED THEM BEFORE

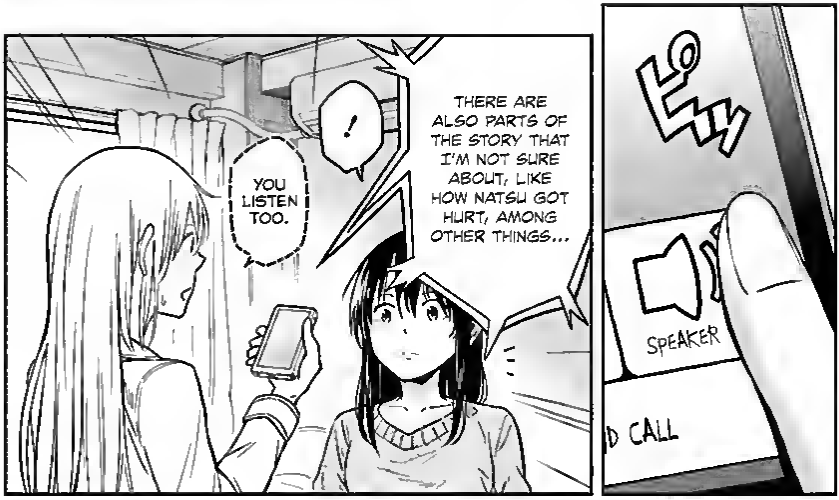
BUT IT'S TRUE!
SHE SAW THROUGH ME ?

BEEP BEEP
!?
WHAT THEY'RE TELLING ME
BEEP BEEP

BEEP
HELLO?
AH, GOOD.
YOU BOTH PICKED UP.
I GOT A GROUP CALL INVITE FROM YUMI-CHAN...
SHE INVITED HARU, TOO... DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
Sorry
Take it
CAN I TALK WITH YOU GUYS FOR A BIT...?
I'M KIND OF... IF IT'S JUST A BIT...
ARE YOU.. OUTSIDE, HARU-KUN? IS IT OKAY?
YEAH, I WAS JUST GOING TO A CONVENIENCE STORE
NOT LIKE I CAN TELL THEM I WAS LOOKING FOR THE ARSONIST
COOL BEER

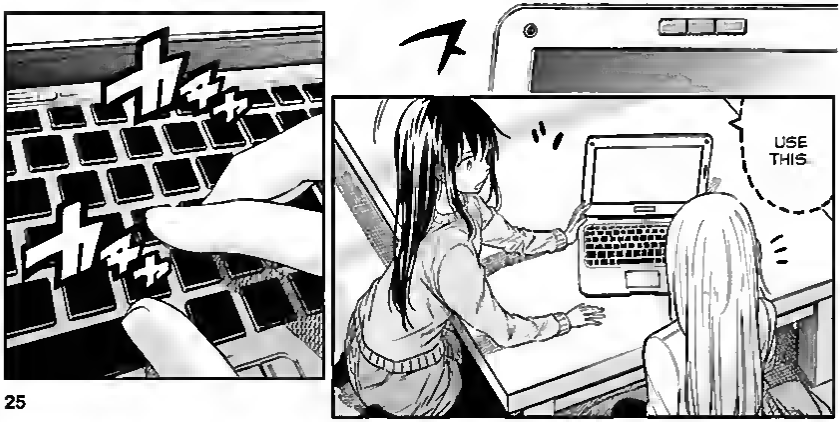
SORRY IF I SOUND LIKE A BROKEN RECORD, NATSU...
BUT SOMETHING WAS BOTHERING ME, SO I WENT BACK AND RE-READ THAT WEB NOVEL I WAS TELLING YOU ABOUT.
...I REALLY DO THINK THIS STORY
IS BEING WRITTEN ABOUT THE TWO OF YOU.
...!

EVEN THE SETTING... IT'S ALMOST AS IF IT'S MIRRORING THE ARSON CASES HAPPENING ALL OVER THE CITY...!
AND THE TWO CHARACTERS IN THE NOVEL ARE JUST LIKE YOU TWO...
THE AUTHOR KNEW ABOUT NATSU BEING CALLED "FUYU" BACK IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.


THERE ARE ALSO PARTS OF THE STORY THAT I'M NOT SURE ABOUT, LIKE HOW NATSU GOT HURT, AMONG OTHER THINGS...
!
YOU LISTEN TOO.
ピッ
SPEAKER
D CALL

25

I'LL TELL YOU THE NAME, SO LOOK IT UP...
JUST READ IT FOR A BIT...!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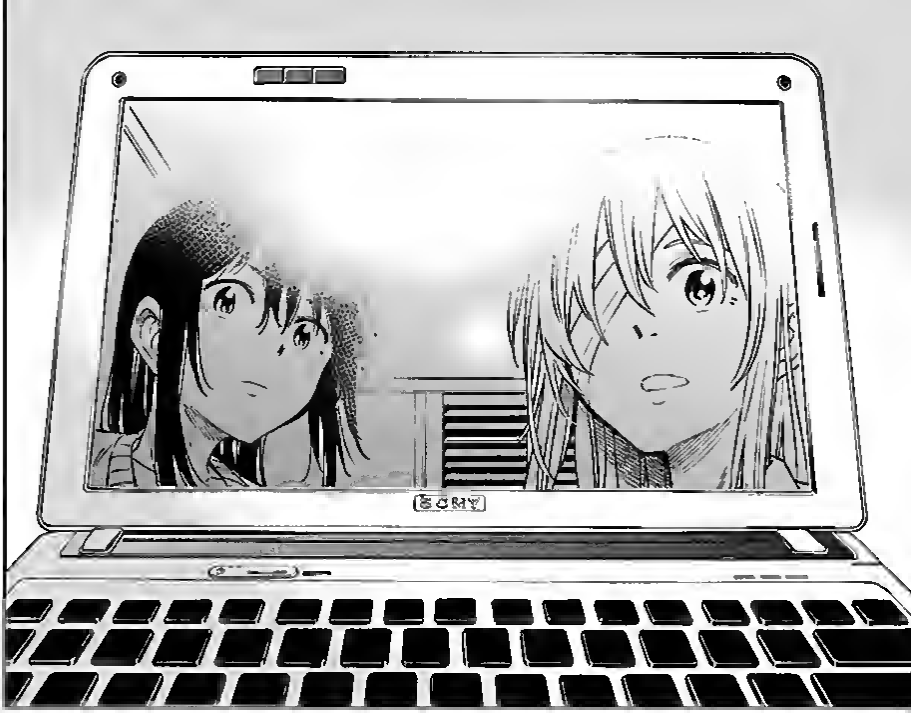
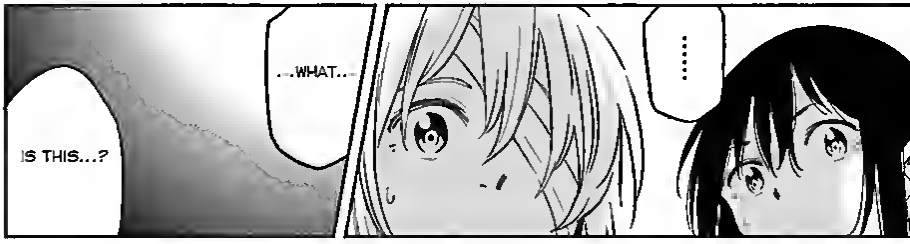
カチャ
USE THIS.



HARU-KUN, YOU'RE OUTSIDE, RIGHT?
PLEASE DO.
DO YOU WANT ME TO GIVE YOU A PLOT SUMMARY...?


.....
...WHAT...
IS THIS...?

.. AND THAT'S BASICALLY IT. IT'S A BIT OF A FANTASY, WHAT WITH THE WHOLE FIRE COMING OUT OF YOUR HAND THING,
BUT WHAT DO YOU THINK? DOES IT ACTUALLY SOUND LIKE WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU TWO?
OR DO YOU THINK YOU KNOW WHO COULD HAVE WRITTEN THIS...?

.....
...NOPE.
I HAVE NO IDEA.

HUH. .?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, NATSU...?

YEAH...

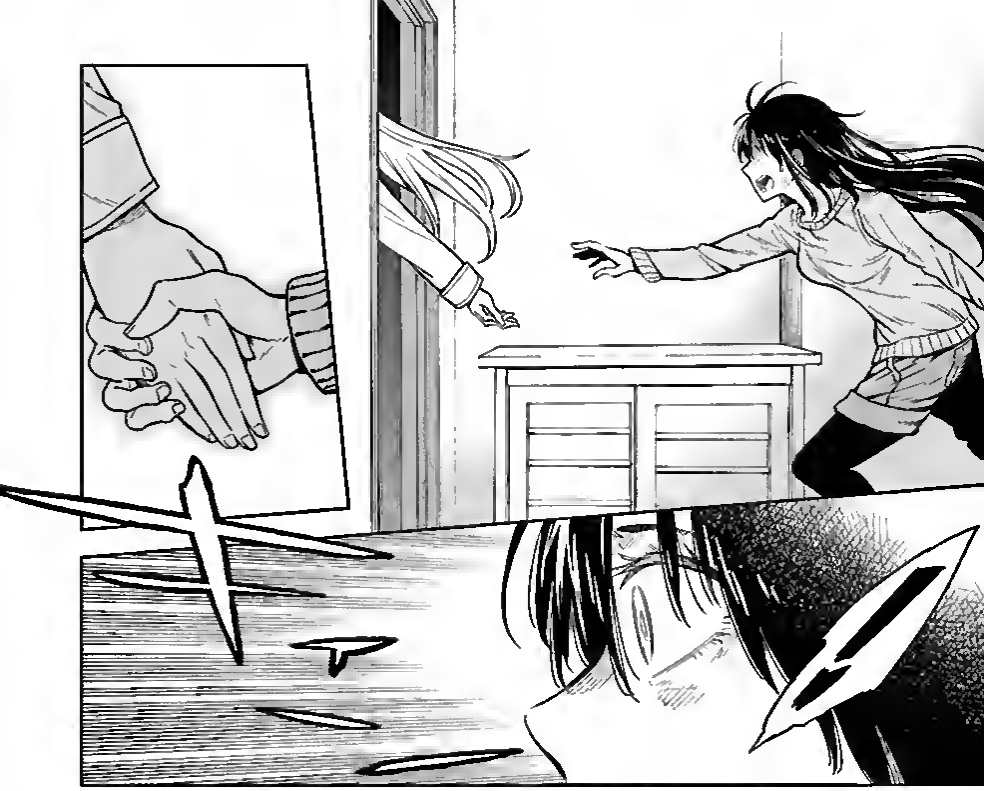
I SEE...
I THINK IT'S TOO MUCH OF A FANTASY...
IT'S KINDA SCARY TO HAVE A PROTAGONIST WHO SPITS OUR FIRE, ISN'T IT?

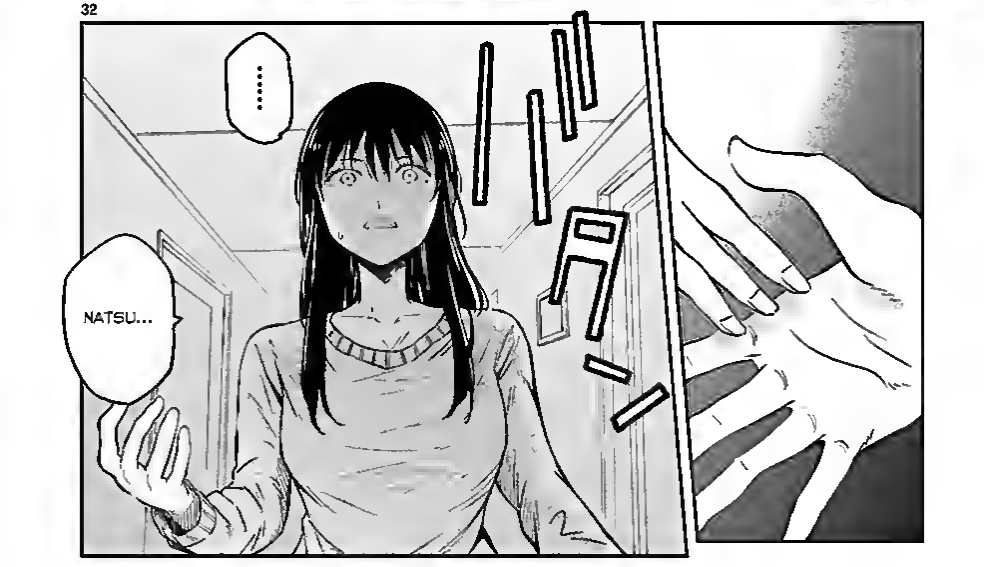
I DON'T HAVE A CLUE EITHER...
SORRY...
...I SEE...
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. I'M ACTUALLY GLAD IT DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU GUYS...
SORRY FOR BRINGING IT UP AGAIN. SEE YOU GUYS LATER, THEN!
BEEP

29

NATSU...!
WAIT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING...!?
... SORRY, AKI-CHAN.
I HAVE TO GO!
...!
THIS LATE AT NIGHT... GO WHERE?
...EVERY WORD OF THAT STORY...
WAS TRUE.
I DON'T KNOW WHY...
BUT...
SOMEONE'S BEEN WATCHING US THIS WHOLE TIME...
AND THAT PERSON IS PROBABLY...

THE ARSONIST!
...WHO?
WHO IS IT...!?
...I'M NOT CERTAIN YET...
WAIT...!
THAT'S WHY I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE...!
I STILL HAVE SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK...




……
NATSU…

PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
33

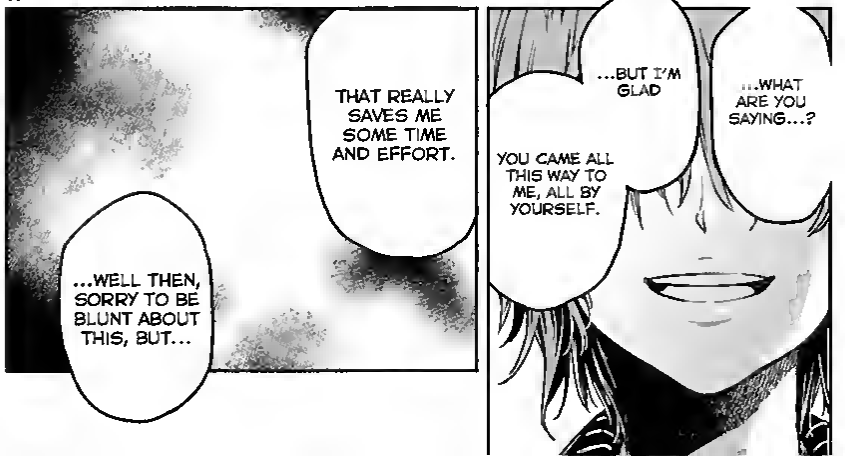
YOU SURPRISED ME.

I WASN'T EXPECTING YOU TO COME HERE SO LATE.

..SO,
IS THERE SOMETHING YOU NEED...
HOSHIMI-SAN?

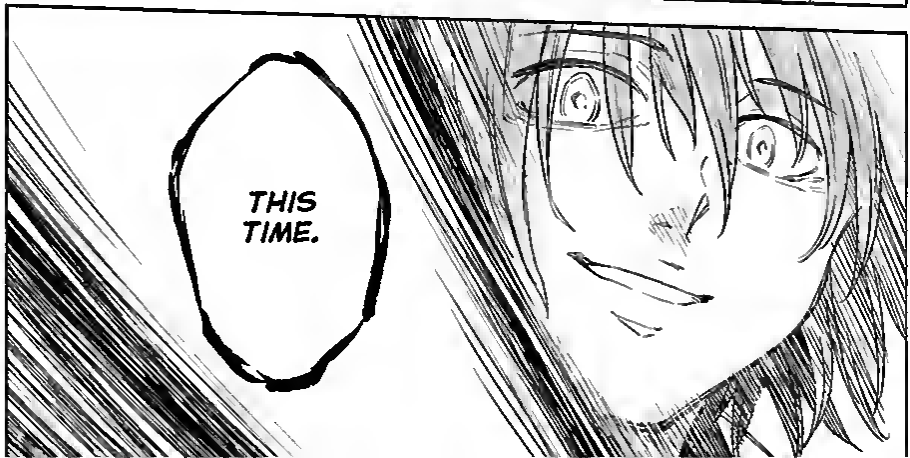
I READ... THAT NOVEL...
YUKIMACHI-KUN...
I...
THERE ARE A LOT OF THINGS IN THERE
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WROTE IT, RIGHT...?
THAT ONLY YOU, HARU, AND I WOULD HAVE KNOWN...
37
...IT'S NOT...
IT HAD THE ARSONS IN THERE, TOO...
BUT... THAT'S JUST BECAUSE YOU LOOKED THEM UP, RIGHT...?
YOU DIDN'T... DO ANYTHING... DID YOU, YUKIMACHI-KUN?
TRUE, RIGHT...?

AH...
SO I GOT FOUND OUT...
HUH...?
OH WELL, THAT'S FINE.
IT'S NOT LIKE IT'LL AFFECT MY PLAN.


THAT REALLY SAVES ME SOME TIME AND EFFORT.
...WELL THEN, SORRY TO BE BLUNT ABOUT THIS, BUT...
...BUT I'M GLAD
...WHAT ARE YOU SAYING...?
YOU CAME ALL THIS WAY TO ME, ALL BY YOURSELF.

COULD YOU DIE?
39
HUH...?
WHAT...?
STOP.
PLEASE, DON'T SAY ANYTHING ELSE.
I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT YOU, SO I DON'T WANT TO GET INVOLVED WITH YOU ANY MORE THAN I HAVE TO.
I'M JUST GOING TO...

MAKE SURE
YOU'RE DEAD


THIS TIME.

!!
WHO ARE—
SHUT UP!!

I DON'T REALLY CARE ABOUT YOU,
SO JUST SHUT UP
42
AND LET ME HIT YOU
REALLY, REALLY HARD.
»次回更新へつづく

HARU NO HOUTAI SHOUJO

CHAPTER 15

RAWS:
JAGMANYX3

TRANSLATION:
RENM

PROOFREADING:
JAGMANYX3

EDITING:
JAGMANYX3

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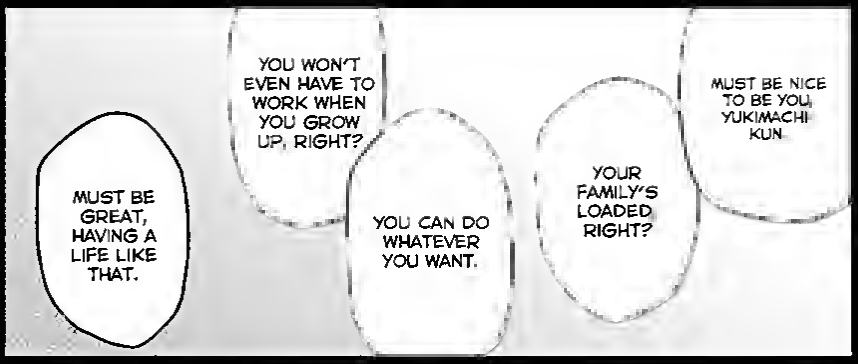
MUST BE NICE TO BE YOU, YUKIMACHI KUN.
YOUR FAMILY'S LOADED RIGHT?
YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
YOU WON'T EVEN HAVE TO WORK WHEN YOU GROW UP, RIGHT?
MUST BE GREAT, HAVING A LIFE LIKE THAT.

THAT'S NOT TRUE...
I'M NOT THAT IMPRESSIVE.

THERE'S THE BELL, BACK TO YOUR SEATS, EVERYONE.
OKAY, OKAY.

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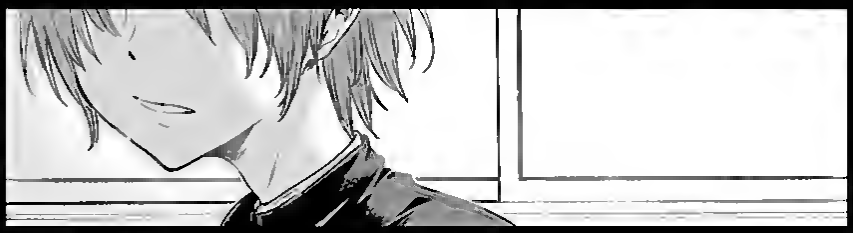
OH, COME ON.
YOU SURE ARE MODEST.
OH MAN. I WISH I WERE YOU, YUKIMACHI KUN.

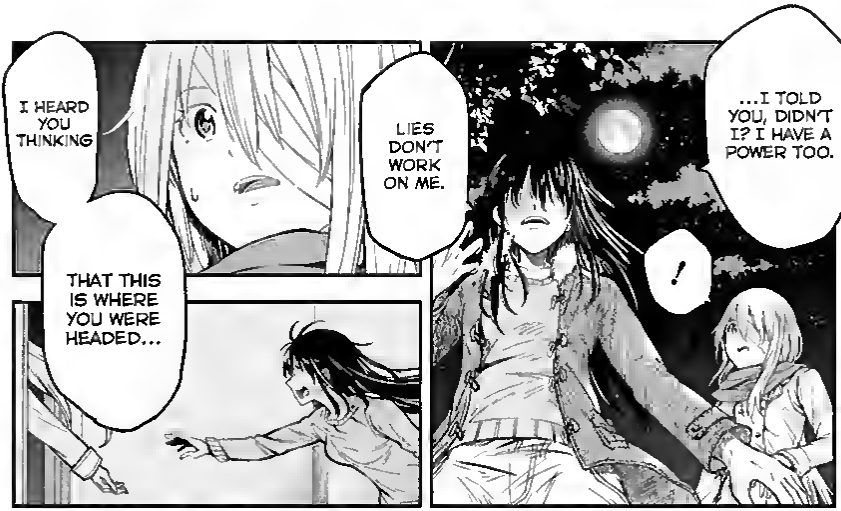


春の包帯少女

佐藤ミト

CHAPTER 16: CAGE

AKI-CHAN...
HOW DID YOU KNOW...
THAT I WOULD BE HERE?


I HEARD YOU THINKING
LIES DON'T WORK ON ME.
...I TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I? I HAVE A POWER TOO.
!
THAT THIS IS WHERE YOU WERE HEADED...

THE OWNER OF THIS MANSION IS SO WELL-OFF THAT EVERYONE IN THIS REGION KNOWS WHO HE IS...
HOW SURPRISING, THOUGH...

AND IT TURNS OUT THE ARSONIST IS HIS SON.

I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE THAT HE WAS THE ONE WHO BURNED MY HOUSE DOWN.
AS LONG AS I DON'T HAVE ANY EVIDENCE THAT HE'S THE ARSONIST,
....I KNOW.
AKI-CHAN...
I CAN'T JUST LET HIM GO...!
BUT I CAN'T...
5
I'VE SEEN A LOT OF PEOPLE UNTIL NOW, AND I CAN TELL...
HE'S DAN-GEROUS...!
THERE'S...
NO WAY I'M WRONG!!!

!?
6
AKI-CHAN!!
...SO YOU
ALSO HAVE A POWER, HUH...?
!

7

IT'S RUDE TO CLIMB UP ONTO THE STAGE.
WHA...
I'M FLOAT-ING...?
THEN YOU'RE JUST A MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE.
.....!?
UNFORTU-NATELY,
HAVING A SPECIAL POWER DOESN'T NECESSARILY GIVE YOU THE PRIVILEGE OF STANDING UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT.
IF ALL THE WORLD'S A STAGE,

NOW THEN, IF YOU WOULD BE SO KIND...

EXIT STAGE RIGHT.
AKI-CHAN!!!
IT'S YOUR TURN.
...NOW THEN,
PANT
PANT

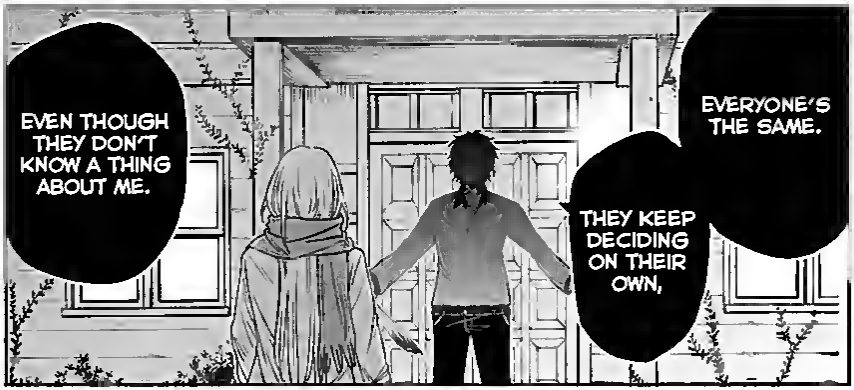
IT'S JUST,
NO ONE'S EVER ASKED ME THAT BEFORE.
AH,
NO-THING...
...WHAT?
...I WAS JUST
A BIT SURPRISED.

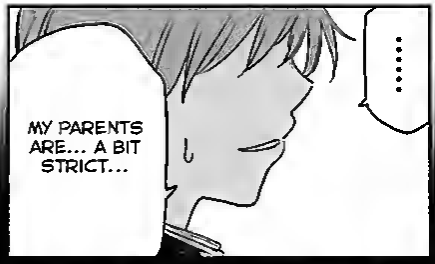
WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS, YUKIMACHI-KUN...!?
THE YUKIMACHI-KUN I KNEW WOULD NEVER HAVE DONE SOMETHING LIKE THIS...!
WHY...?

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ME...!!?
I WOULDN'T HAVE DONE SOMETHING LIKE THIS...?
HAHAHA!!

I AM THE SERIAL ARSONIST,
AND RIGHT NOW, I'M TRYING TO KILL YOU. GET IT?

YOU DON'T GET TO DECIDE THAT FOR ME.
THAT'S WHO I AM.


EVEN THOUGH THEY DON'T KNOW A THING ABOUT ME.
EVERYONE'S THE SAME.
THEY KEEP DECIDING ON THEIR OWN,


.....
MY PARENTS ARE... A BIT STRICT...

BUT...
HE WAS DIFFERENT.

...THEY GET ANGRY AT ME ALL THE TIME,
SO I'M REALLY TIRED FROM HAVING TO DEAL WITH THEM...
Ha-ha...
TO THEM, IT MUST BE INEXCUSABLE FOR THEIR SON TO BE SO NORMAL AND TALENTLESS.

I DON'T REALLY HAVE ANY TALENTS EITHER. I'M JUST NORMAL.
NOTHING TO BRAG ABOUT.
HUH?
I SEE
YOU'RE A LOT LIKE ME, THEN
I'LL SHARE SOME OF MY NORMALNESS WITH YOU.
SO JUST RELAX A BIT.
PFT
13
I'M NOT STRANGE, I'M NORMAL!
...YOU'RE A STRANGE GUY!
W-WHAT, YOU'RE NOT HAPPY THERE'S SOMEONE LIKE YOU?
WHAT WAS THAT!?
ARE YOU TRYING TO CHEER ME UP?

IT WAS JUST POINTLESS BANTER,
BUT IT FELT
LIKE I HAD A PLACE WHERE I BELONGED.
I'M HOME.
YOU'RE LATE!
WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN DOING ALL THIS TIME?

DON'T YOU TALK BACK TO ME!!
FATHER...
IT'S NOT CURFEW YET...
!?
OH DEAR, WHAT DID YOU DO...!
SMACK...
...IT'S FINE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU DID.
BUT APOLOGIZE TO YOUR FATHER.
OH, OKAY.
THAT'S FINE, THEN.
I DIDN'T HIT HIS FACE.

I DON'T BELONG HERE...
AH...
I'M SORRY...
SPENDING TIME WITH YOZAKURA-KUN
WAS EVERY-THING.
FOR ME,
I DIDN'T CARE A BIT ABOUT MY FAMILY
BUT...
THAT DIDN'T LAST LONG EITHER.

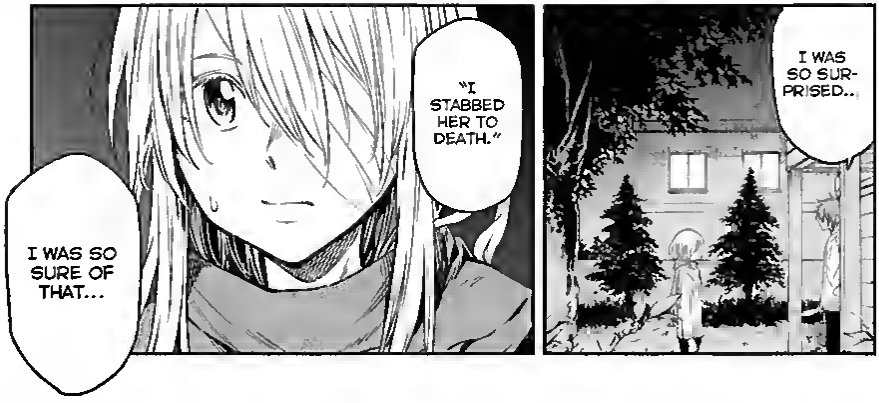
YOU SHOWED UP,
AND YOZAKURA-KUN STARTED TO LIKE YOU.
SO HE STARTED ONLY PAYING ATTENTION TO YOU.

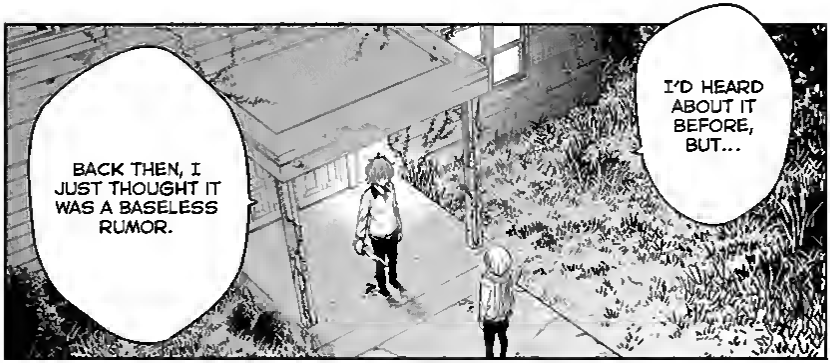
THE ONLY PLACE WHERE I BELONGED
WAS GONE.

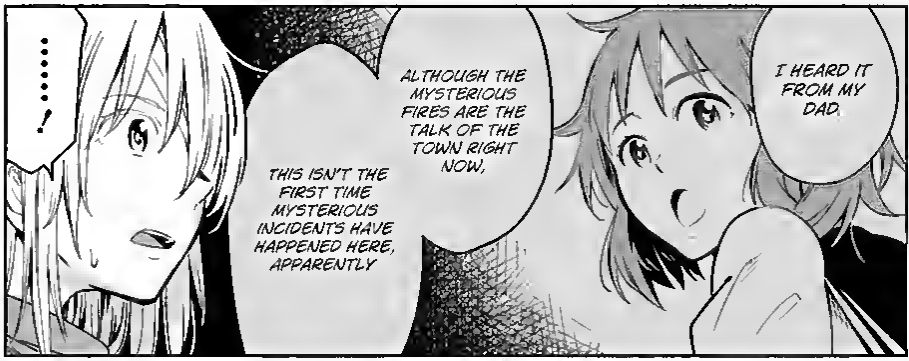
EVEN BEFORE I MET YOZAKURA-KUN... WHENEVER FATHER HIT ME,
I WOULD GO TO SOME ABANDONED PLACE,
AND START A FIRE.
WHEN YOU SHOWED UP, IT GOT WORSE.
I COULDN'T HOLD BACK ANYMORE.
...AND IN THE END...

I EVEN WENT AFTER YOZAKURA-KUN.
I COULDN'T HELP IT.
AT THAT RATE,
IF IT KEPT GOING ON LIKE THAT,
IF IT COULD NEVER GO BACK TO THE WAY IT WAS...
...THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT, BUT...
...THEN EVERYTHING MIGHT AS WELL DISAPPEAR

THERE WERE TWO THINGS THAT I HADN'T EXPECTED.
AND...
THAT YOU WOULD BE THERE...
THAT YOU ALSO
HAD A POWER.


I WAS SO SURPRISED..
"I STABBED HER TO DEATH."
I WAS SO SURE OF THAT...


BACK THEN, I JUST THOUGHT IT WAS A BASELESS RUMOR.
I'D HEARD ABOUT IT BEFORE, BUT...


.....!
THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME MYSTERIOUS INCIDENTS HAVE HAPPENED HERE, APPARENTLY
ALTHOUGH THE MYSTERIOUS FIRES ARE THE TALK OF THE TOWN RIGHT NOW,
I HEARD IT FROM MY DAD.

20

I DISCOVERED SOMETHING UNEXPECTED...!

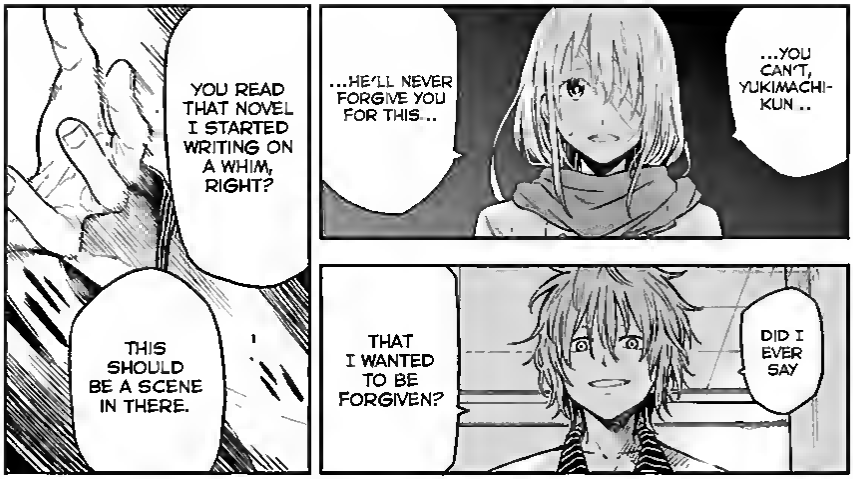
IN TRYING TO MAKE YOZAKURA-KUN STAY QUIET ABOUT THE INCIDENT,
...BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY,
TALK AND I BUY EVERYTHING.

HIS HATRED OF THE ARSONIST.

AS LONG AS I'M THERE, HE'LL STILL THINK OF ME...!

THAT WAS WHERE I BELONGED NOW.

THAT'S WHY I CONTINUED WITH THE ARSONS.
TO MAKE SURE THE FLAMES OF HIS HATRED WOULD NEVER GO OUT.


YOU READ THAT NOVEL I STARTED WRITING ON A WHIM, RIGHT?
THIS SHOULD BE A SCENE IN THERE.
...HE'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS...
...YOU CAN'T, YUKIMACHI-KUN..
THAT I WANTED TO BE FORGIVEN?
DID I EVER SAY

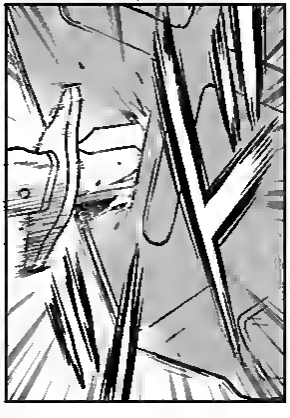
THAT'S ALL THAT'S LEFT OF YOUR ROLE.
!?
THE BANDAGED GIRL'S FINALE: SHE GETS STABBED BY A KNIFE AND BURNED TO DEATH.

WHY I HAVE THIS POWER?
...DO YOU KNOW

IT'S BECAUSE I WISHED FOR IT.
THE POWER TO STAB YOU OVER AND OVER UNTIL YOU'RE DEAD, EVEN IF BOTH OF MY HANDS WERE BOUND!!!

JUST LIKE THIS!!

CHINK



HE'LL PROBABLY THROW ALL HIS WRATH AT ME,
AND THEN,
IT'LL JUST BE THE TWO OF US AGAIN.
!?
...THIS IS THE EPILOGUE.
YOU'RE GOING TO DISAPPEAR IN THIS ABANDONED HOUSE,
AND THEN...
I'M GOING TO TELL HIM EVERYTHING.
...THERE WON'T BE ANY INTERRUPTIONS THIS TIME.
DIE.

ARE YOU DOING...?
...WHAT
!?

YOU CAME TO SEE ME!
I'M SO HAPPY!
HARU...!!
FANTAS-TIC!
WHAT!!!
ARE!!! YOU!!! DOING!!!?
27
WHAT AM I DOING?
.....

HARU AND NATSU'S FEELINGS... NEXT TIME, THE FINAL CHAPTER.

»次回更新へつづく

HARU NO HOUTAI SHOUJO

CHAPTER 16

RAWS:
JAGMANYX3

TRANSLATION:
RENM

PROOFREADING:
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EDITING:
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CHAPTER 17: HARU (SPRING)
YUKIMACHI'S KNIFE PIERCES NATSU...
春の包帯少女
佐藤ミト

NATSU!
NATSU...!
HARU...
.....!!
...I'M SORRY... I CAME HERE BY MYSELF...
AND MADE YOU... WORRY AGAIN...
.....!!
IT'S OKAY...! DON'T TALK!!
DAMN IT!
DAMN IT!!!

DAMN IT!!
DON'T...
!?
...WHY ARE YOU LETTING YOUR FLAMES COME OUT...?
SO..SO I CAN GET REVENGE ON THE ARSONIST WHO'S BEEN HURTING US! ISN'T THAT OBVIOUS..!!?
...BUT IF YOU DO THAT...
YOU'LL BURN YOUR HANDS AGAIN...!
I... DON'T WANT THAT...
I DON'T WANT YOU TO HURT YOURSELF ANYMORE...
...EVEN WITHOUT MY POWER, A WOUND LIKE THIS WILL DEFINITELY HEAL...

LET'S GO HOME.
...EVEN IF YOU FAIL ANOTHER TEST... AND HAVE TO STAY BEHIND FOR DETENTION AGAIN...
I... WILL WAIT FOR YOU, NO MATTER WHAT...
JUST LIKE THEN...
SO LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER...!

HA HA HA HA...?
HEHEHE...

WELL, YOZAKURA-KUN?
7
I'M THE ONE WHO STABBED HER.
I'M THE ONE WHO ATTACKED YOU.
I'M THE ONE WHO THREATENED YOU.
I'M THE SERIAL ARSONIST.
I'M THE ONE YOU SHOULD HATE.
I'M THE ONE YOU SHOULD KILL.

THAT'S IT! KILL ME!!
YES...!
HURRY...!!
I'M RIGHT HERE!
KILL ME...!
THAT'S IT... COME...
LOOK ONLY AT ME...!!
GIVE ME YOUR HATRED...
KILL ME!!
JUST OUR WORLD AGAIN...!!
MAKE IT

10
I'M RIGHT HERE! YOU HATE ME, RIGHT...!?
WHY!? WHAT'S WRONG...!?
LET THE FLAMES OF YOUR HATRED BURN...!!
.....!?
...HUH...?

CAN'T GO AWAY THAT EASILY...!!
...OF COURSE I HATE YOU...
...ALL THIS TIME, I'VE HATED THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE...
...THIS HATRED...
...BUT
I FINALLY GET IT...

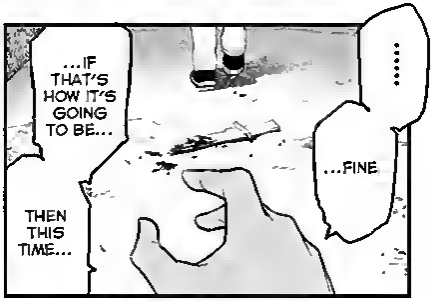
I'M IN LOVE.
...WHAT I WANT
ISN'T REVENGE.
IT'S TO LIVE ON
TOGETHER WITH NATSU.
IF I LET MY HANDS BECOME COVERED IN THE FLAMES OF REVENGE,
ALL I'D BE DOING WOULD BE HURTING HER.

WAIT...!!

...W-
WAIT...!

...ARE YOU...
GOING TO BETRAY ME AGAIN...?

KILL YOU!!
I MIGHT AS WELL


...IF THAT'S HOW IT'S GOING TO BE...
THEN THIS TIME...
.....
...FINE

MOVE
MOVE!!
WHY...
ISN'T IT MOVING!?
...!
...W... WHY!?
WHY...
WHY...
.....
I JUST WANTED TO BE WITH YOU...
WANTED...
I JUST...

ガチャ
!
YOU...
HAVEN'T I SEEN...
! NO...
THAT CAN WAIT...!
SOMEONE'S INJURED! CALL AN AMBULANCE...!
YES, MA'AM...!

!

HN...

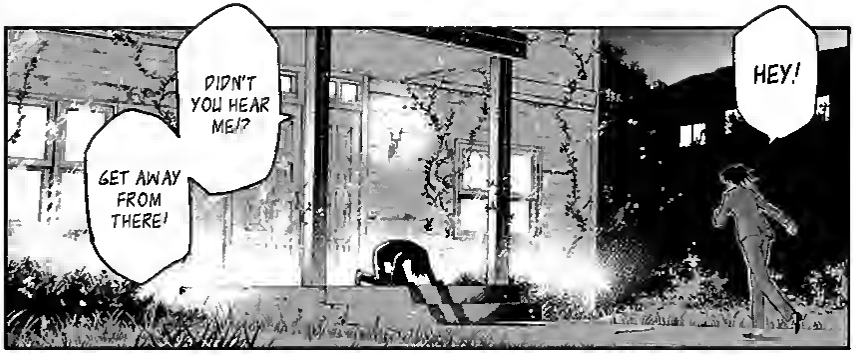
...A FIRE...!?
YOU, HURRY AND GET AWAY FROM THERE...!

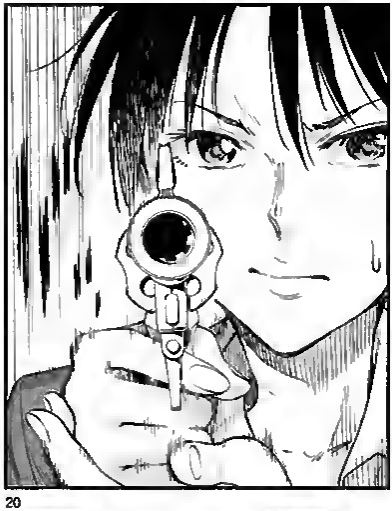
...ONEE-CHAN...
...THANK YOU...
.....!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT...!?
AKI...!

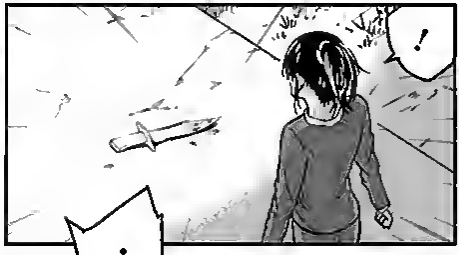
AKI, WHAT'S WRONG...?
BEEP
...THANK YOU...
...FOR COMING...
...BASI-CALLY...
...WHAT!? WHAT'S GOING ON!?
...I'M HEADED TO WHERE THE ARSONIST IS RIGHT NOW...!
...ONEE-CHAN...

...YOU MIGHT NOT BELIEVE WHAT I'M SAYING...
...SO THERE'S A HIGH CHANCE HE'S THE CULPRIT.

ALRIGHT!
I'M ON MY WAY!
OF COURSE I CAME...
YOU'RE...
THE ONE SOURCE I'VE GOT THAT I KNOW I CAN TRUST, NO MATTER WHAT.
...JUST LEAVE THE REST
TO YOUR BIG SISTER...
ぐしゃ
19


DIDN'T YOU HEAR ME!?
GET AWAY FROM THERE!
HEY!

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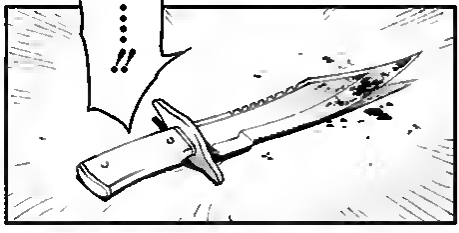
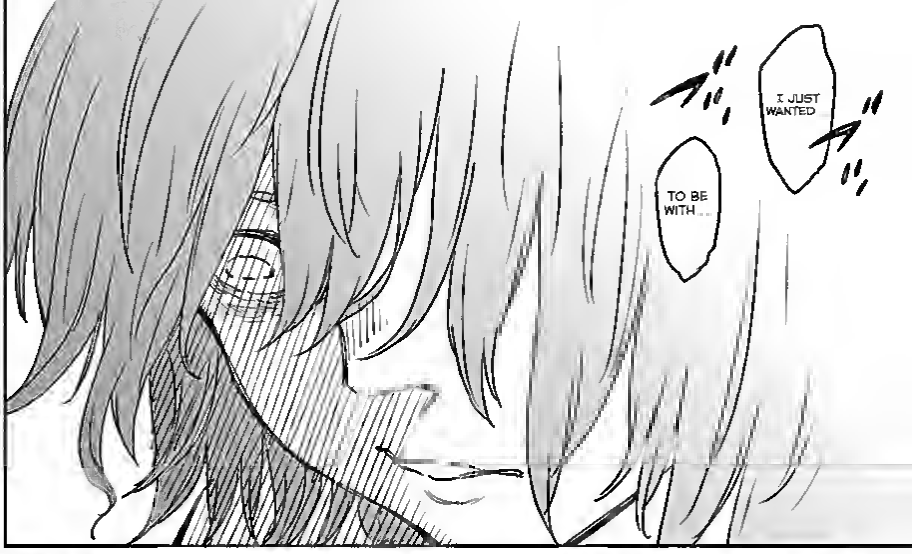
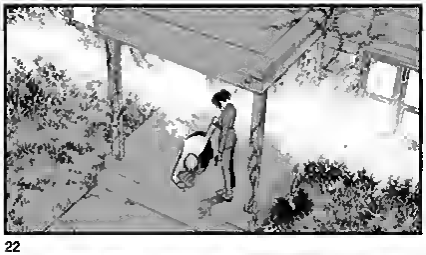

.....!!

AND PUT YOUR HANDS IN THE AIR!
DROP ANYTHING YOU'RE HOLDING,
YOU'RE UNDER ARREST ON SUSPICION OF ARSON!
YOU'RE.. YUKIMACHI-KUN, RIGHT—!?

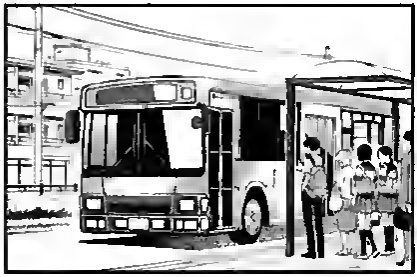
HURRY UP...!
……
ドォォォン
……!?


I JUST WANTED
TO BE WITH...



MOM, I'M GONNA BE LATE TODAY.
AGAIN? MAKE SURE YOU THANK HIM PROPERLY FOR HELPING YOU DURING WINTER BREAK, OKAY?
GOT IT.
THANKS FOR BREAKFAST!

ALRIGHT, SEE YOU!



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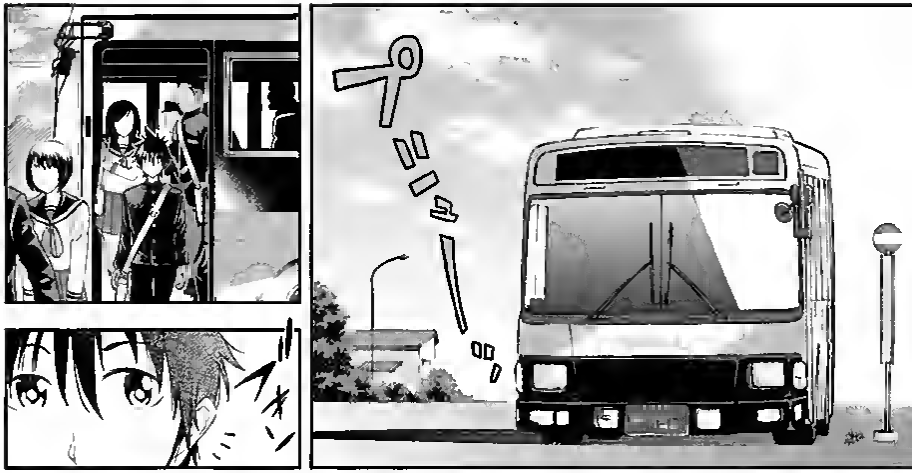
Mornin!
OH!
BEEN A WHILE!

I TOLD YOU... YOU OVERDID IT...
THAT FACE! YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHO I AM, DO YOU!?

Don't get so worked up!
Guys suck! Stay away from me!
Stop it!
BUT WE'RE SECOND-YEARS NOW! IF I DON'T START STANDING OUT AND ACTING LIKE IT, I WON'T GET TREATED LIKE A SECOND-YEAR, RIGHT!?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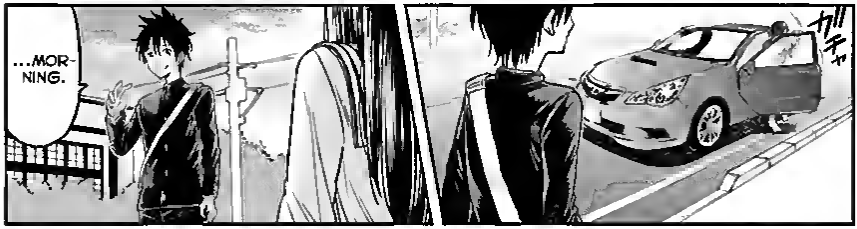
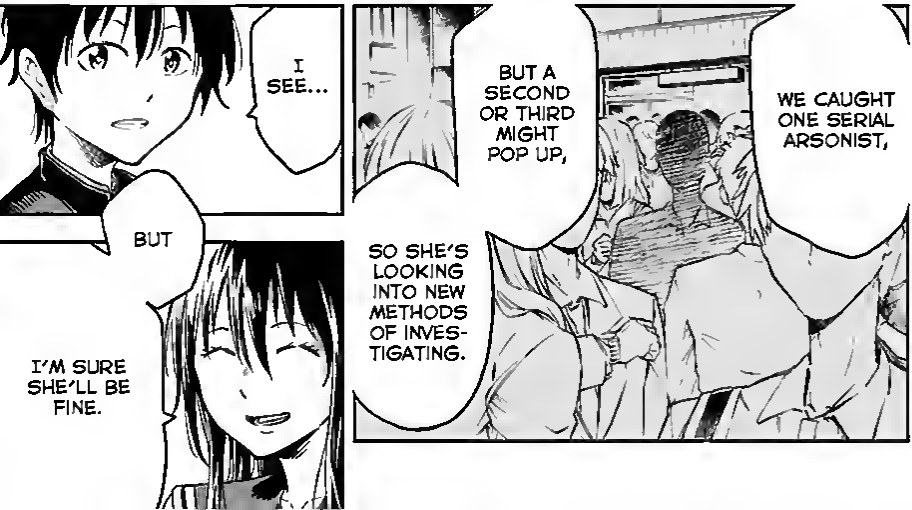
ブォン


...MOR-
NING.
ガチャ

MORNING,
YOZAKURA-
KUN...!

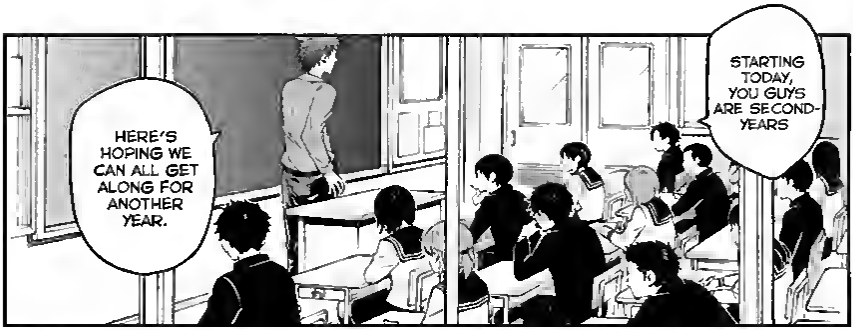
ALRIGHT.
TAKE CARE, THEN.
ガィィイン
THANKS, ONEE-CHAN.

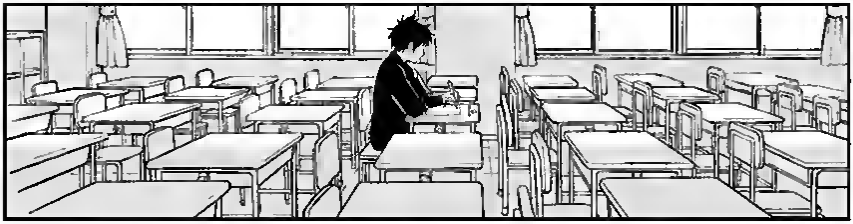
OF COURSE SHE IS. SHE'S MY SISTER
IS ALWAYS SO COOL. .
YOUR SISTER
So cool

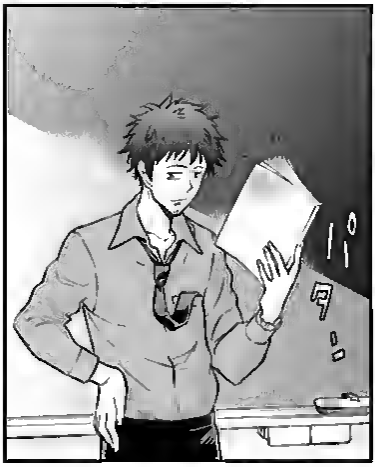

I SEE...
BUT
I'M SURE SHE'LL BE FINE.
BUT A SECOND OR THIRD MIGHT POP UP,
SO SHE'S LOOKING INTO NEW METHODS OF INVESTIGATING.
WE CAUGHT ONE SERIAL ARSONIST,

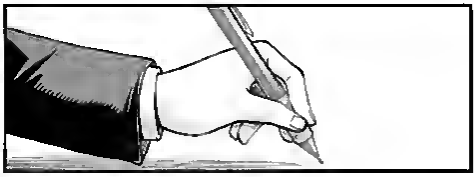
NOW, NOW, HARU-KUN!
YOU'VE GOT SOMEONE ELSE YOU SHOULD BE FLIRTING WITH!

THIS IS A PLACE OF EDUCATION.
AND AS A STUDENT, WHAT SHOULD YOU BE DOING?
S-STUDYING...


HERE'S HOPING WE CAN ALL GET ALONG FOR ANOTHER YEAR.
STARTING TODAY, YOU GUYS ARE SECOND-YEARS



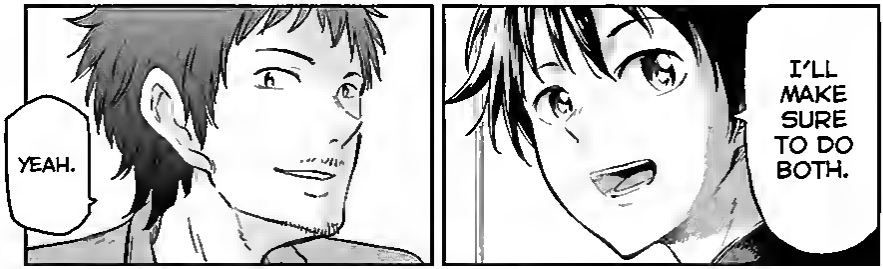




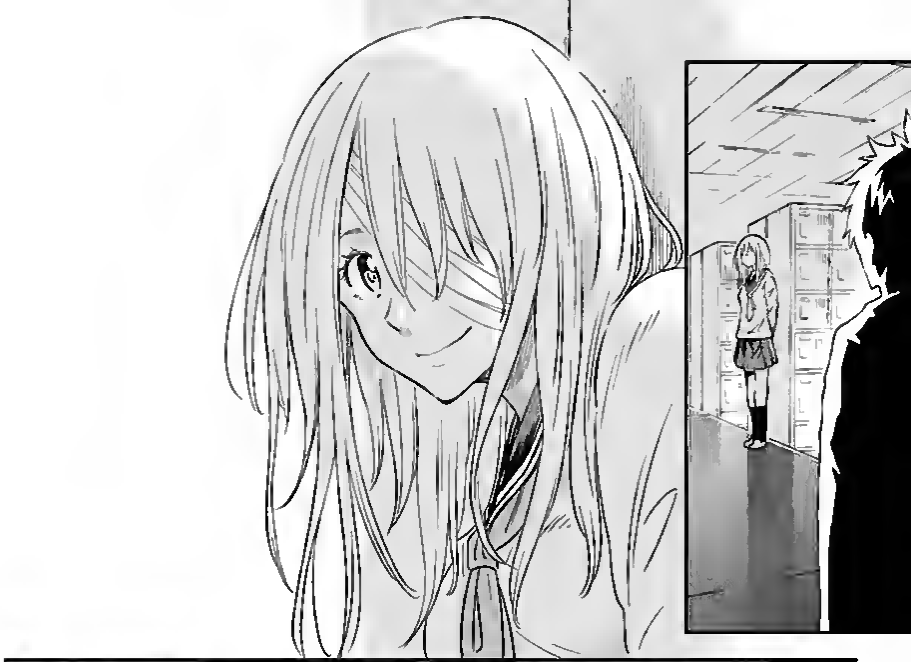
IT'S ALMOST SUNSET, SO LET'S STOP HERE.

THANK YOU FOR STAYING AFTER SCHOOL AND HELPING ME STUDY.
GOOD WORK.
SENSEI...
HM, WE DID GO ONE DAY PAST THE BREAK,
BUT IT SEEMS LIKE YOU WERE DOING YOUR WORK PROPERLY, SO YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO CATCH UP WITH THE CLASS NOW.
RIGHT, MY BAD.
WELL I DO FEEL THANKFUL, OKAY!? YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST TAKEN MY THANKS WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING!
H-HOW COULD YOU TELL!?
...DID YOUR MOM TELL YOU TO SAY THAT?
It's true, that I get told very often that I lack delicacy.
BUT...
YOU ALWAYS SAY MORE THAN YOU SHOULD, YOU KNOW?
YOU KNOW, I THINK THAT'S THE REASON WHY YOU CAN'T GET MARRIED.

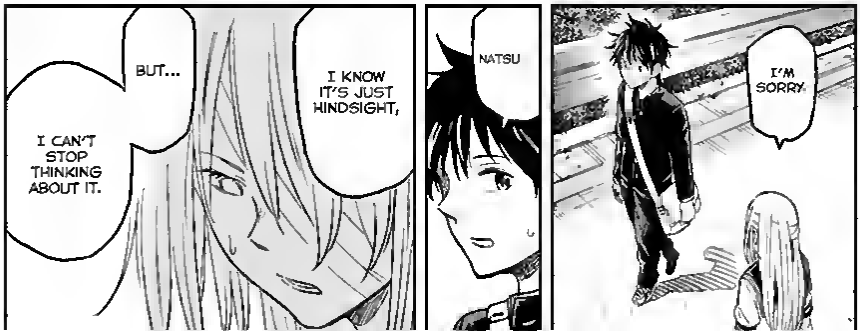
"A STUDENT'S DUTY IS TO STUDY, BUT A HUMAN'S IS TO LOVE."
THAT WAS A PRETTY GOOD QUOTE.


I'LL MAKE SURE TO DO BOTH.
YEAH.

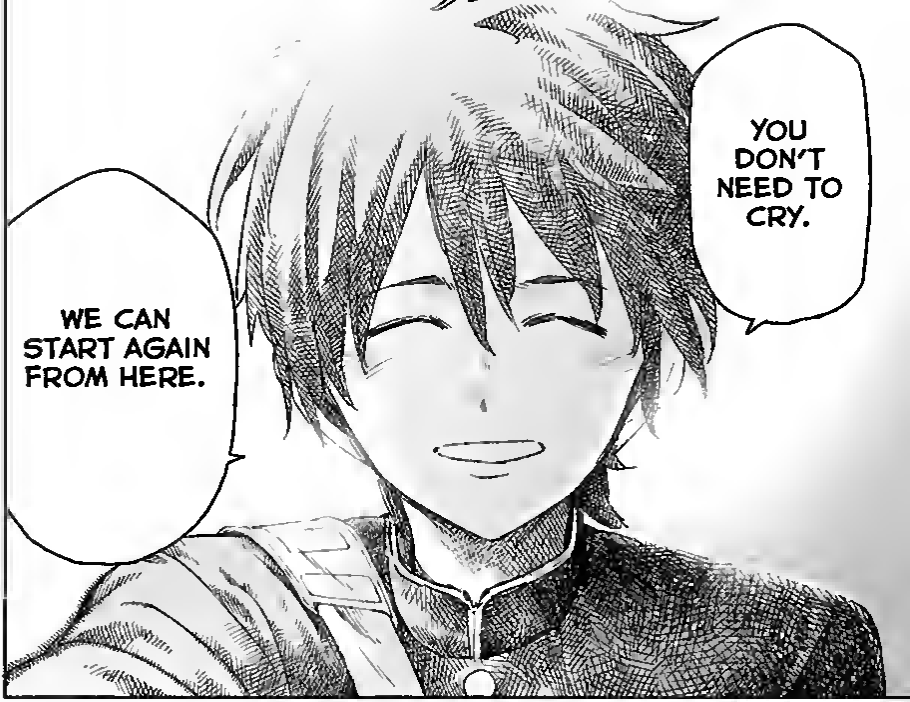
OH, BUT YOU SHOULD PROBABLY GET MARRIED BEFORE YOU USE IT AGAIN.
ガラッ
WHY YOU-!


I THOUGHT YOU GOT OUT OF THE HOSPITAL TOMORROW.
ARE YOU OKAY?
IT'S FINE, IT'S FINE!
I LEFT A NOTE.
I'M HEADING OUT
THAT'S NOT THE PROBLEM HERE.

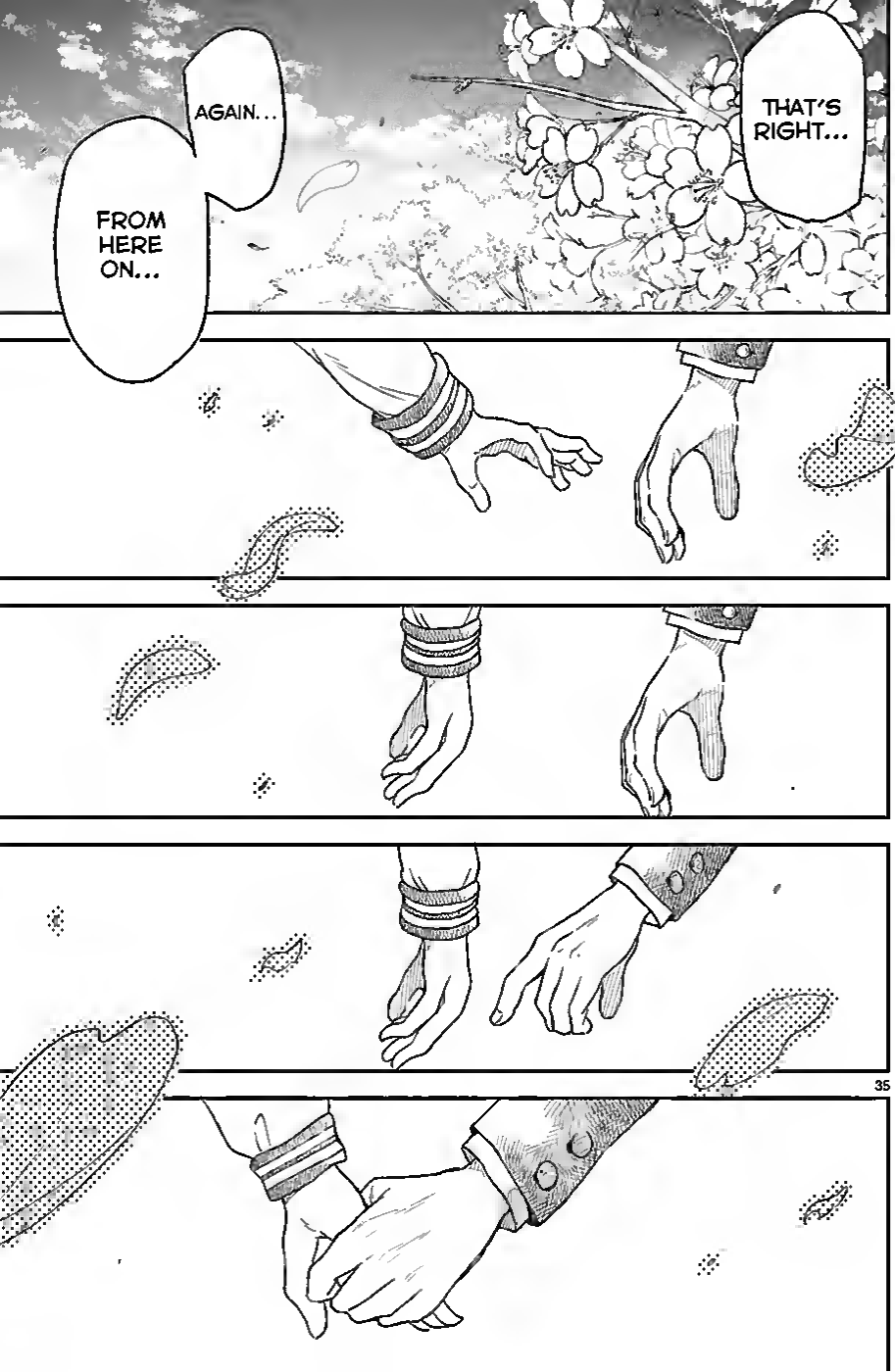
.....

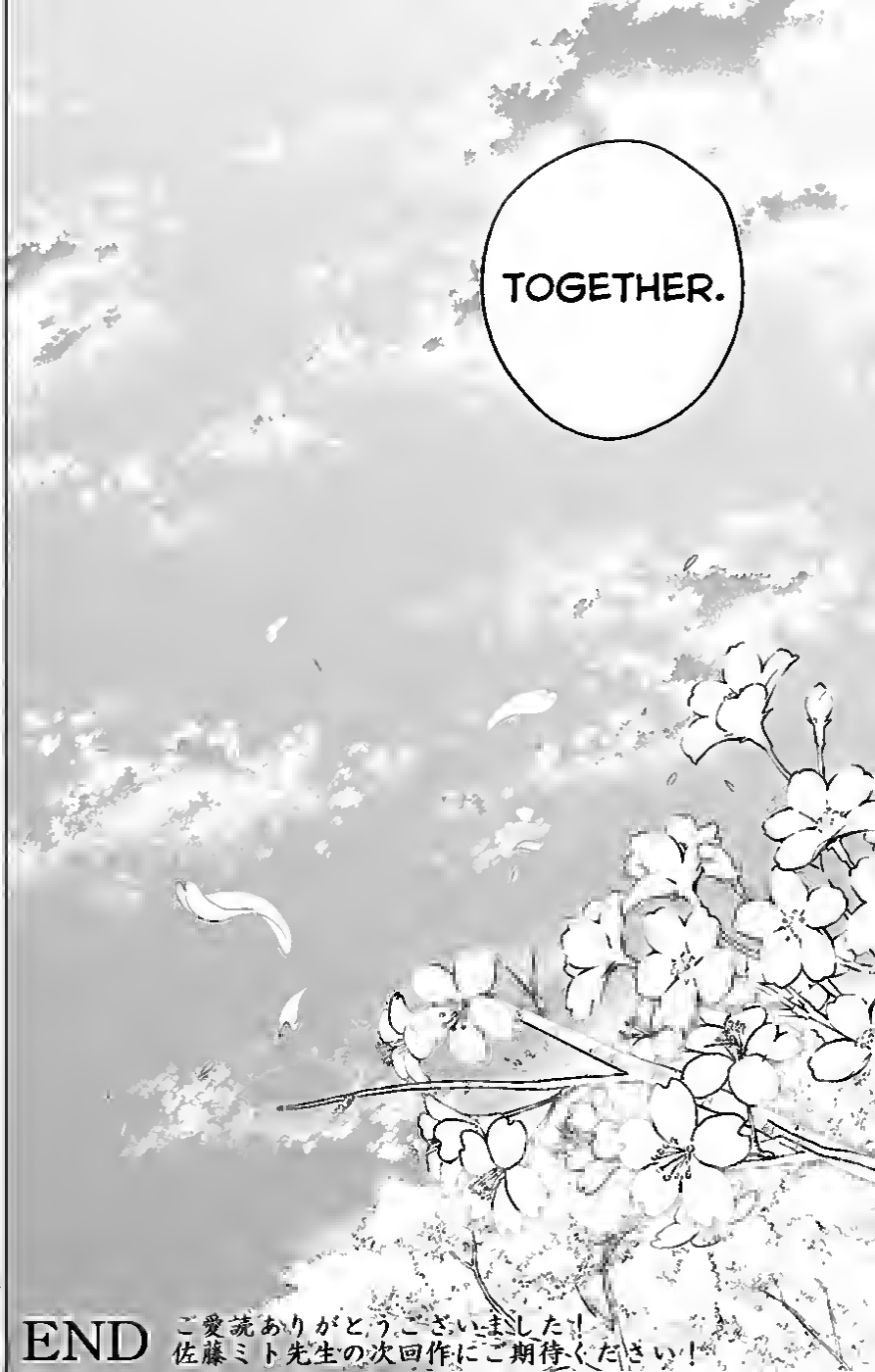

I'M SORRY.
NATSU
I KNOW IT'S JUST HINDSIGHT,
BUT...
I CAN'T STOP THINKING ABOUT IT.

WOULD THINGS
HAVE TURNED OUT
DIFFER-ENTLY?
IF WE HADN'T HIDDEN ANYTHING FROM EACH OTHER...
IF WE HAD JUST TALKED TO EACH OTHER ABOUT IT...
BUT THERE'S NO GUARANTEE THAT IT WOULD BE BETTER THAN WHAT DID HAPPEN.
...SOMETHING ELSE MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED INSTEAD...
SO NATSU...
BUT WE MADE OUR CHOICES...
WE MIGHT HAVE HIDDEN THINGS FROM EACH OTHER,
THAT'S WHY WE WERE ABLE TO COME BACK.
AND WE WERE ALWAYS THINKING OF EACH OTHER WHEN WE MADE THEM.


YOU DON'T NEED TO CRY.
WE CAN START AGAIN FROM HERE.

...YEAH.


THAT'S RIGHT...
AGAIN...
FROM HERE ON...



END ご愛読ありがとうございました！
佐藤ミト先生の次回作にご期待ください！

HARU NO HOUTAI SHOUJO

CHAPTER 17

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